MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Prevailing financial constraints preclude the possibility of going in for any new Division for the present. Moreover, an Area Manager's office, headed by an officer in the Senior Administrative Grade, is already functioning at Ahmedabad to look after the day-to-day requirements of the local rail-users as well as the Railway Administration. This arrangement is working satisfactorily.

Curtailment in annual Plan size of Railways

2952. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway propose to cut down the annual Plan size of 1993-94 by Rs. 500 crores;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor stating the areas likely to be affected with the pruning of the plan size; and

(c) the manner in which Government propose to fund the projects likely to suffer as a consequence thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Railways propose to cut down plan expenditure during 1993-94 by Rs. 300 crores.

(b) Shortfall in revenue has necessitated this decision. All major plan heads except gauge conversion, MTP, Bridge Works and plan heads dealing with users amenities and Staff quarters are affected.

(c) Pace of execution of affected works may slow down somewhat until the resource position improves.

Construction of overbridge near Mahila College, Rajkot

2953. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to construct over-bridges near Amrapali Cinema and Mahila College (Western Railway) in Rajkot;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) the time schedule fixed for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir. A proposal for construction of a road over bridge in replacement of level crossing No. 7 at km. 4/6-7 near Amrapali Cinema and Mahila College between Rajkot-Baktinagar section has been received from the State Govt., preliminary formalities for which are yet to be completed by the State Govt.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Late Running of Trains

2954. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the spurt of inordinate delay in the running of trains;

(b) whether there has been any computation of mandays lost because of the delays; and

(c) what steps, if any, have been taken to put a stop to the delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Mainly due to reasons like agitations/bandhs on issues not connected with the Railways, natural calamities and accidents etc.

(b) No, Sir.